

#### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1 and 4 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An image pickup apparatus in which a pixel area, including a plurality of pixels, each having a photoelectric conversion portion and a common output portion configured to ~~sequentially~~ amplify and output signals ~~from~~ of the plurality of pixels included in the pixel area, ~~is~~ are formed on a single semiconductor substrate, said apparatus comprising:

a power supply unit configured to ~~effect control~~ power supply ~~[[control of]]~~ to the common output portion independently of ~~control of~~ controlling the power supply to the plurality of pixels;

a determination unit configured to determine the length of a photo-charge accumulation period of the photoelectric conversion portion in accordance with an exposure detected by photometry processing and a photographing mode; and

a control circuit configured to control the power supply unit in accordance with the length of the photo-charge accumulation period of the photoelectric conversion portion determined by the determination unit, ~~so as to,~~ such that if the photo-charge accumulation period of the photoelectric conversion portion is determined to be longer than a predetermined accumulation time, ~~step the power supply unit stops~~ power supply to the common output portion ~~in~~ for a predetermined period after starting photo-charge accumulation in the photoelectric conversion portion, ~~and supply~~ starts supplying power to the common output portion before the end of the photo-charge accumulation period ~~in~~ of the photoelectric conversion portion ~~and then stops supplying the power to the common output portion after all the signals of the plurality of pixels~~

are output from the common output portion, and ~~to~~, if the length of the photo-charge accumulation period of the photoelectric conversion portion is determined to be shorter than a predetermined accumulation time, ~~continue~~ the power supply unit continues to supply the power to the common output portion throughout the photo-charge accumulation period without switching the power supply thereto.

2. (Previously Presented) The image pickup apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said control circuit variably controls the period during which the power supply to the common output portion is stopped.

3. (Previously Presented) The image pickup apparatus according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said power supply unit is formed on the single semiconductor substrate.

4. (Currently Amended) An image pickup apparatus in which a pixel area, including an arrangement of a plurality of pixels, each having a photoelectric conversion portion and a common output portion configured to ~~sequentially~~ amplify and output signals ~~from~~ of the plurality of pixels included in the pixel area, ~~is~~ are formed on a single semiconductor substrate, said apparatus comprising:

a power supply unit configured to supply a first power level and a second power level lower than the first power level to the common output portion; and

a determination unit configured to determine the length of a photo-charge accumulation period of the photoelectric conversion portion in accordance with an exposure detected by photometry processing and a photographing mode; and

a control circuit configured to control the power supply unit in accordance with the length of the photo-charge accumulation period of the photoelectric conversion portion determined by

the determination unit, ~~so as to,~~ such that if the photo-charge accumulation period of the photoelectric conversion portion is determined to be longer than a predetermined accumulation time, ~~supply the power supply unit supplies~~ power of the second power level to the common output portion ~~in~~ for a predetermined period after starting photo-charge accumulation in the photoelectric conversion portion, ~~and supply starts supplying~~ the first power level to the common output portion before the end of the photo-charge accumulation period in the photoelectric conversion portion and then stops supplying the first power level to the common output portion after all the signals of the plurality of pixels are output from the common output portion, and ~~to,~~ if the photo-charge accumulation time of the photoelectric conversion portion is determined to be shorter than a predetermined accumulation time, ~~continue~~ the power supply unit continues to supply the first power level to the common output portion throughout the photo-charge accumulation period without switching the power supply thereto.

5. (Previously Presented) The image pickup apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said control circuit variably controls the period during which the second power level is supplied to the common output portion.

6. (Previously Presented) The image pickup apparatus according to claim 4 or 5, wherein said power supply unit is formed on the single semiconductor substrate.